
Chapter 21.30 – Property Development Standards

Sections:

21.30.010	Purpose and Applicability
21.30.015	General Site Planning and Development Standards
21.30.025	Coastal Zone Subdivisions
21.30.030	Natural Landform and Shoreline Protection
21.30.040	Fences, Hedges, Walls, and Retaining Walls
21.30.050	Grade Establishment
21.30.060	Height Limits and Exceptions
21.30.065	Signs
21.30.070	Outdoor Lighting
21.30.075	Landscaping
21.30.085	Water Efficient Landscaping
21.30.100	Scenic and Visual Quality Protection
21.30.105	Cultural Resource Protection
21.30.110	Setback Regulations and Exceptions
21.30.130	Traffic Safety Visibility Area
21.30.135	Water Quality Control

21.30.010 – Purpose and Applicability

The purpose of this chapter is to ensure that development is consistent with the Coastal Land Use Plan, complies with the standards of this chapter, produces an environment that is harmonious with existing and future development, and protects the use and enjoyment of neighboring properties.

The standards of this chapter apply to all coastal zoning districts. These standards shall be considered in combination with the standards for each coastal zoning district in Part 2 (Coastal Zoning Districts, Allowable Land Uses, and Coastal Zoning District Standards) and Part 4 of this title (Standards for Specific Land Uses). Where there may be a conflict, the standards specific to the coastal zoning district or specific land use shall override these general standards.

All structures, additions to structures, and uses shall conform to the standards of this chapter as determined applicable by the Director.

21.30.015 – General Site Planning and Development Standards

- A. **Location of New Development.** New development shall be located in areas with adequate public services or in areas that are capable of having public services extended or expanded without significant adverse effects on coastal resources. Redevelopment and infill development shall be allowed within and adjacent to the existing developed areas in the Coastal Zone subject to the density and intensity limits and resource protection policies of the Coastal Land Use Plan.

B. Non-residential Waterfront Development.

1. **Applicability.** This subsection applies to coastal development permit applications on non-residential properties fronting on the waterfront of Newport Bay, the Pacific Ocean, the Old Channel of the Santa River (the Oxbow Loop), or the channels in West Newport.
2. **Considerations.** In reviewing a coastal development permit application for development, the reviewing body shall consider the following:
 - a. Whether the development reduces coastal-dependent commercial uses and/or allows coastal-dependent uses to remain;
 - b. The suitability of the site to accommodate coastal-dependent uses;
 - c. The project's ability to accommodate coastal-related uses;
 - d. The project's ability to create waterfront public spaces and beaches, with adjacent water access and docking facilities that serves as the identity and activity "centers" of Newport Harbor for special events of community/regional interest;
 - e. Potential impacts to existing coastal-dependent and coastal-related developments, both on project site and on adjacent properties;
 - f. The adequacy of marine-related facilities and the present and foreseeable demand for such facilities.
3. **Development Standards.**
 - a. **Public Access to Bay Front.** The dedication and improvement of public access to, and along the waterfront, in conjunction with proposed development and new land uses shall be required pursuant to Chapter 21.30A (Public Access and Recreation).
 - b. **Pump-out Facilities Required.** On waterfront sites where the proposed use includes public marinas, yacht clubs, boat charters or rentals, sports fishing establishments, commercial fishing facilities, marine service stations, gas docks, boat launching facilities, or other similar uses, either public or private, boat holding tank pump-out facilities shall be provided in each case, unless otherwise approved by the reviewing body as part of a coastal development permit. Said pump-out facilities shall have adequate capacity to accommodate all vessels anticipated at each site. Prior to the issuance of building permits, the Harbor Resources Manager shall approve all plans and specifications of pump-out facilities.

C. **Development in Hazardous Areas.**

1. **General.** New development shall be sited and designed to avoid hazardous areas and minimize risks to life and property from coastal, geologic, seismic, fire, and other hazards.
2. **Local Hazards Mitigation Plan.** New development shall be reviewed in relationship to the most current Local Hazard Mitigation Plan (LHMP) to avoid high hazard areas and to implement preventive measures in areas vulnerable to natural hazards.
3. **Wave Uprush and Impact Report.** Coastal development permit applications in areas subject to wave action shall submit a wave uprush and impact study that analyzes the following conditions:
 - a. A seasonally eroded beach combined with long-term (75-year) erosion;
 - b. High tide conditions, combined with long-term (75-year) projections for sea level rise; and
 - c. Storm waves from a 100-year event or a storm that compares to the 1982/83 El Niño event.
4. **Geologic Report.** Coastal development permit applications in areas of known or potential geologic or seismic hazards shall be required to submit a geologic geologic/soils/geotechnical report that includes the following:
 - a. A statement of the preparer's qualifications;
 - b. Identification of geologic hazards affecting the site;
 - c. Identification of necessary mitigation measures;
 - d. A certification that the:
 - (1) Site is suitable for the development;
 - (2) Development will have no adverse effect on the stability of the bluff, canyon, or shoreline; and
 - (3) Development is expected to be reasonably safe from failure and erosion over its economic lifetime without having to install additional stabilization features to protective structures in the future.
 - e. An analysis of the following factors:
 - (1) Cliff geometry and site topography, extending the surveying work beyond the site as needed to depict unusual geomorphic conditions that might affect the site;

- (2) Historic, current, and foreseeable erosion, including changes in shore configuration and sand transport;
- (3) Geologic conditions (e.g., soil, sediment, rock types and characteristics, etc.) in addition to structural features (e.g., bedding, joints, faults, etc.). The analysis shall include slope stability/failure analyses (i.e., analyses of the possibility that bluff retreat may occur suddenly and catastrophically through slope failure) and erosion rate estimates (i.e., estimates of the possible rate at which bluff retreat may occur over time);
- (4) Evidence of past or potential landslide conditions, the implications of the condition for the proposed development, and the potential effects of the development on landslide activity;
- (5) Impact of construction activity on the stability of the site and adjacent area;
- (6) Ground and surface water conditions and variations, including hydrologic changes caused by the development;
- (7) The erosion potential of the site and mitigation measures to be used to ensure minimized erosion problems before and after construction (i.e., landscape and drainage design);
- (8) Effects of marine erosion factoring in long-term (75-year) projections for sea level rise;
- (9) Potential effects of seismic forces resulting from a maximum credible earthquake; and
- (10) Any other factors that might affect bluff, canyon, or shoreline stability.

5. **Waiver of Future Protection.** As a condition of approval, the review authority shall require an agreement between an applicant, including its successors and assigns, and the City in favor of the City, in a form approved by the City Attorney, and recorded by the applicant, a waiver of future protection to address situations in the future in which development is threatened with damage or destruction from waves, erosion, storm conditions, landslides, seismic activity, or other natural hazards. The applicant shall agree to:

- a. Never construct structures or features over the economic life of the development to protect the development; and
- b. Remove and relocate all portions of a development, including associated fallen debris at the base of a bluff or canyon, if a government agency determines that the development is hazardous or a threat to the public.

6. **Fuel Modification.**

- a. New development in urban wildland interface areas shall be sited and designed to avoid fire hazard areas, incorporate required fuel modification zones, and avoid the need to extend fuel modification zones into sensitive habitats to the maximum extent feasible.
- b. Fuel modification zones abutting sensitive habitats shall consist of fire-resistive, native plant species from the City-approved plant list.
- c. Invasive ornamental plant species shall be prohibited in fuel modification zones abutting sensitive habitats.

21.30.025 – Coastal Zone Subdivisions

- A. **Compliance with Local Coastal Program Required.** Any proposed subdivision lying wholly or partially within the Coastal Zone shall be designed to comply with and implement the goals, policies and various components of the applicable Local Coastal Program.
- B. **Public Access and Open Space Areas.** When the Local Coastal Program indicates the location of a public accessway or of any permanent open space or conservation area within the boundaries of a proposed subdivision, such accessway, open space or conservation area shall be shown on the tentative map and offered for dedication to the City. When an accessway, open space or conservation area is already in existence at the time a tentative map is filed, the status of such accessway, open space or conservation area, whether public or private, shall be identified on the map.
 - 1. Where feasible, dedications shall provide connections to existing and proposed bikeways and trail systems.
 - 2. Park and recreational facilities shall be adequate to accommodate the needs of new residents of the subdivision.
 - 3. Where feasible, public trails, recreation areas, and viewing areas shall be provided adjacent to public coastal view corridors.
 - 4. New planned communities shall dedicate or preserve as open space the coastal bluff face and an area inland from the edge of the coastal bluff adequate to provide safe public access and to avoid or minimize visual impacts.
- C. **Hazardous Areas.** Proposed subdivisions shall be designed to avoid hazardous areas and minimize risks to life and property from coastal and other hazards.
- D. **Coastal Resource Protection.** Proposed subdivisions shall be designed to minimize impacts to coastal bluffs and preclude new development within and minimize impacts to environmentally sensitive habitat areas.
- E. **Alternative Transportation.** Proposed subdivisions of 100 dwelling units or more shall be designed to facilitate provision or extension of transit service and provide non-automobile circulation within the development to the greatest extent possible.

- F. **Private Streets.** New private streets that inhibit public access to and along the shoreline and to beaches, coastal parks, trails, or coastal bluffs are prohibited.

21.30.030 – Natural Landform and Shoreline Protection

- A. **Purpose.** This section provides regulations for the protection of natural landforms and shoreline features. The intent is to ensure that development is sited and designed to minimize hazards to life and property; to ensure the structural integrity of bluffs and canyons; to neither create nor contribute to erosion or adverse impacts on shoreline sand supply and the shoreline; and to protect public access, public views, and scenic qualities of the Coastal Zone; and to implement policies of the Coastal Land Use Plan.
- B. **Applicability.** This section applies to coastal development permit applications on lots that abut or include bluffs, canyons, or the shoreline.
1. **Exempt Development.** This section does not apply to public improvements that provide public access, protect coastal resources, or provide for public safety (e.g., walkways leading to approved public beach access facilities, open fences for safety or resource protection, public seating benches, lighting standards, signs, etc.), provided that:
- a. No feasible alternative exists; and
 - b. The improvements are designed and constructed to:
 - (1) Minimize alteration of topography;
 - (2) Minimize erosion; and
 - (3) Be visually compatible with the surrounding area to the maximum extent feasible.
- C. **Development Standards.**
1. **Bluff and Canyon Setbacks.**
- a. **B Overlay and C Overlay Districts.** As provided in Section 21.28.040 (Bluff (B) Overlay District) and Section 21.28.050 Canyon (C) Overlay District).
 - b. **Planned Communities.** Planned communities established before the certification date of the Coastal Land Use Plan (i.e., Bayside Residential, Bayview Landing, Newport Coast, Newport Ridge, Newporter North (Harbor Cove), Park Newport, and Upper Castaways) shall maintain the setbacks established by the approved site plan.
 - c. **Other Coastal Zoning Districts.** As required by the development standards for that coastal zoning district.

2. **Landscaping and Irrigation.** In addition, to the standards in Section 21.30.075 (Landscaping) the following standards shall apply:
- a. Plant material shall provide a transition area between developed areas and natural habitats and shall be drought-tolerant and either native or noninvasive to minimize the need for irrigation beyond initial plant establishment.
 - b. The selection and siting of landscaping materials shall minimize impacts to public views at maturity.
 - c. Permanent irrigation shall not be allowed on or near a bluff or canyon. Temporary irrigation (e.g., above-ground sprayers, microsprayers, drip irrigation, etc.) may be allowed on a case-by-case basis as necessary to establish native or naturalized plant materials. Temporary irrigation shall be removed upon establishment of the plant materials.
3. **Protective Structures.** The following standards shall apply to the construction of protective structures:
- a. The construction of protective structures shall be prohibited, except to protect legally established structures; coastal-dependent uses; and existing development that are:
 - (1) Not subject to waivers of future protection recorded.
 - (2) Threatened by natural hazards, provided that the structures are limited to the minimum required to protect existing development. For purposes of this subsection, “existing development” shall consist only of a principal structure (e.g., residential dwelling, required garage, second residential unit, etc.) and shall not include accessory structures (e.g., cabanas, decks, landscaping, patios, pools, stairs, tennis courts, etc.).
 - b. The construction of protective structures shall be prohibited for the purpose of enlarging or expanding areas for new development or for new development. For purposes of this Section, “enlarging or expanding areas for new development” does not include construction of a new protective structure immediately adjacent to an existing protective structure when necessary to reinforce or replace the existing protective structure.
 - c. In shoreline areas, temporary and/or permanent sand dunes may be installed to protect structures from wave uprush, provided that their installation minimizes significant impacts to coastal access and resources. When feasible, nonstructural methods (e.g., dune restoration, sand nourishment, etc.) shall be used instead of shoreline protective structures.
 - d. Protective devices shall be designed and sited to eliminate or mitigate adverse impacts to coastal resources; to minimize alteration of natural shoreline processes; to provide for coastal access; to minimize visual

impacts; and to eliminate or mitigate adverse impacts on local shoreline sand supply.

4. **Removal or Relocation of Structures.**

- a. **Structures Subject to Waivers.** Development subject to a Waiver of Future Protection recorded in compliance with Section 21.30.015 (D) (5) shall be removed or relocated when threatened by erosion, instability, or other hazards.
- b. **Unauthorized Structures.** Unauthorized structures, including protective structures, fences, and stairways, that encroach into bluffs or canyons shall be removed.

5. **Open Space Dedication for New Planned Communities.** Coastal development permit applications for new planned communities shall dedicate or preserve as open space the bluff or canyon face and an area inland from the edge of the bluff or canyon adequate to provide safe public access and to avoid or minimize visual impacts.

6. **Swimming Pools.** Swimming pools shall be of double wall construction with subdrains between the walls and leak detection devices or an equivalent method.

7. **Site Planning and Design Techniques.** Site design and construction techniques that minimize adverse impacts on bluffs and canyons to the maximum feasible extent shall be used.

a. **Site Planning Techniques.** Site planning techniques may include the following:

- (1) Siting new development on the flattest area of a site, except when an alternative location is more protective of bluff and canyon resources;
- (2) Minimizing alteration of the site's natural topography by blending altered slopes into the natural site contours and by preserving rock outcroppings;
- (3) Locating development within the existing building pads;
- (4) Minimizing the removal of native vegetation; or
- (5) Clustering building sites.

b. **Design Techniques.** Design techniques may include the following:

- (1) Designing structures to conform to the natural contours of the site, and arranging driveways and patio areas to be compatible with the slopes and structure design;

- (2) Utilizing special foundations (e.g., stepped, split-level, or cantilever designs; etc.); or
- (3) Detaching parts of the development (e.g., detaching a garage from a dwelling unit).

21.30.040 – Fences, Hedges, Walls, and Retaining Walls

This section provides standards for the provision of fences, hedges, walls, and retaining walls.

A. Maximum Height Allowed.

1. Fences, Hedges, and Walls. Maximum heights of fences, hedges, and walls are shown in Table 3-1.

**TABLE 21.30-1
MAXIMUM HEIGHT OF FENCES, HEDGES, AND WALLS**

Location	Maximum Height
Front setback areas.	42 inches. See subsection (B) of this section.
Rear and interior side setback areas.	6 feet in residential and commercial coastal zoning districts. 8 feet in industrial coastal zoning districts adjacent to residential uses.
Setback areas abutting or adjacent to the waterfront of Newport Bay, the shoreline of the Pacific Ocean, the Old Channel of the Santa River (the Oxbow Loop), or the channels in West Newport.	42 inches from existing grade prior to construction. Setback areas on Balboa Island and Little Balboa Island that are abutting or adjacent to Newport Bay are regulated by subsection (B) of this section.
At intersections of streets, alleys and driveways within traffic sight areas.	See Section 21.30.130 (Traffic Safety Visibility Area).

2. **Retaining Walls.** The maximum height of a retaining wall shall be eight feet measured from finish grade at the base of the wall, not including any required guardrails. A minimum horizontal separation equal to the height of the tallest retaining wall shall be provided between retaining walls, except that the required separation shall not be more than six feet. The above requirements shall not apply to retaining walls that are an integral part of principal structures. An increase in the height of a retaining wall may be requested in compliance with Chapter 21.52 (Coastal Development Review Procedures).

- B. **Special Area Regulations.** In front setback areas in Balboa Peninsula, Balboa Island, Corona del Mar, West Newport, East Bay Front on Little Balboa Island, and North Bay Front and South Bay Front on Balboa Island fences and walls shall be allowed to extend to a height of five feet; provided, that any portion of the fence or wall above two feet shall be constructed of open grillwork, wrought iron, latticework, pickets, Plexiglas, or similar materials so that at least forty (40) percent of the portion of the fence or wall above two feet is open. See Figure 3-1.

C. Exceptions to Maximum Height.

1. **Grade Differential.** Where the existing or proposed grade of a lot adjacent to the front setback area is more than twenty-four (24) inches above the adjacent sidewalk (or curb elevation where no sidewalk exists), a maximum twenty-four (24) inch high retaining wall shall be allowed to be located at the front property line. Additional retaining walls shall be allowed to a maximum height of thirty-six (36) inches each, provided they are set back a minimum distance of twenty-four (24) inches from the inward face of the previous retaining wall. Additional retaining walls shall be subject to the same limitation. A maximum forty-two (42) inch guardrail shall be allowed atop the uppermost retaining wall for safety purposes, provided the guardrail is constructed of open grillwork, wrought iron, latticework, pickets, or similar materials so that at least forty (40) percent of the fence is open. See Figure 3-1.
2. **Decorative Fence/Wall Details and Lights.**
 - a. Finials, light fixtures, pilaster caps, pots, and similar decorative items may be placed on fence or wall vertical support elements (e.g., pilasters, pillars, posts, etc.), provided they are secure and do not extend more than twelve (12) inches above the maximum allowed height.
 - b. The number of decorative items (e.g., finials, pilaster caps, pots, and similar items) and light fixtures shall be limited to not more than one item or fixture for every six lineal feet of fence or wall.
3. **Fencing for Pools and Spas.**
 - a. Swimming pools, spas, and other similar features shall provide safety fencing.
 - b. Fencing and guardrails for ponds, spas, and swimming pools located in a front setback area or in the rear and side setback areas regulated as front setback areas on lots with forty-two (42) inch height limitations may be allowed to exceed the height limit in compliance with the following standards:
 - (1) Fences shall be constructed of open grillwork, wrought iron, latticework, pickets, or similar materials so that at least forty (40) percent of the fence or wall is open. In lieu of the above, glass or Plexiglas may be allowed; and
 - (2) Fence height shall be limited to the minimum required for safety.

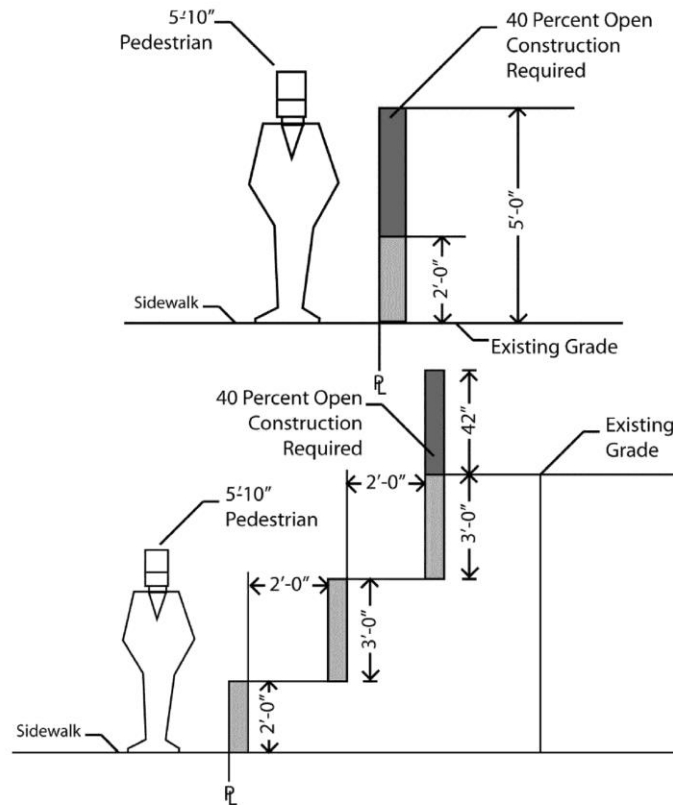


Figure 3- 1

Grade Differential at Front Property Line

4. **Residential Uses Adjacent to Commercial Uses or Alleys.** For residential lots adjacent to nonresidential coastal zoning districts or commercial alleys, fences, walls, or hedges may be up to eight feet in height in required residential side yards for buffering and/or sound attenuation.
5. **Residential Lots Where the Top of Slab Is Required to Be Raised to 9.0 NAVD88 and Where the Grade of the Lot Is Proposed to Be Increased.** The height of fences and walls within required side and rear yard setback areas may be increased provided the height does not exceed six feet as measured from the proposed finished grade and nine feet as measured from the existing grade prior to construction. Additionally, the height of fences or walls shall not exceed nine feet as measured from the existing grade of an abutting lot. The portion of the fence or wall above six feet in height from the existing grade prior to construction shall be constructed of open grillwork, wrought iron, latticework, pickets, or similar materials so that at least sixty (60) percent of the fence or wall is open or is constructed of a transparent material.

- D. **Measurement of Fence or Wall Height.** The height of a fence, hedge, or wall shall be measured from the existing grade prior to construction at the location where the fence, hedge, or wall is located.

- E. **Prohibited Fence Materials.** Barbed wire, electrical fences, razor wire, and other similar materials shall not be allowed in residential coastal zoning districts.

21.30.050 – Grade Establishment

This section provides regulations for establishing the slope and grade of a lot for the purpose of identifying the surface from which to measure structure height to be used in conjunction with the provisions of Section 21.30.060 (Height Limits and Exceptions).

- A. **Establishment of Slope.** In order to determine which of the two methods to use to establish the grade of the lot from which to measure structure height as provided in subsection (B) of this section, it is first necessary to determine the slope of the lot as follows:
1. The slope of a lot shall be determined using a four-sided polygon that most closely approximates the actual footprint of the proposed structure. The area of the four-sided polygon shall not be smaller than the footprint of the proposed structure and shall be located entirely within the buildable area of the lot (see Figure 3-2);
 2. The slope of the polygon shall be determined using the highest and lowest elevation at any of the four corners of the polygon and the distance between the respective corners;
 3. If the location of the polygon selected by the applicant is not clearly representative of the lot's topography or representative of the prevailing slopes on adjoining lots because of retaining structures or previous excavation/fill, the Director shall establish the appropriate area to be used to determine the slope of the lot.

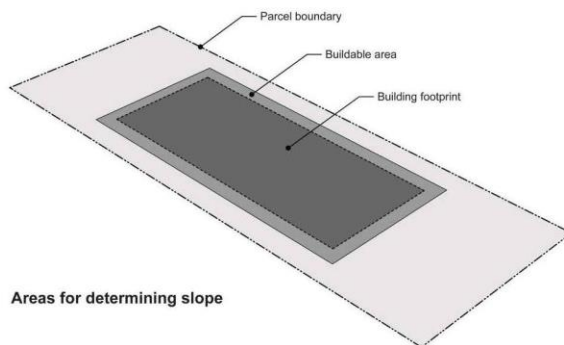


Figure 3- 2 Area for Determining Slope

- B. **Establishment of Grade.** The grade of a lot shall be established by one of the following methods unless the Director establishes the grade in compliance with subsection (C) of this section (Establishment of Grade by Director).
1. **Subdivisions.** If the City approves or has approved a grading plan in conjunction with an approved subdivision, the established grade shall be the finished grade as shown on the grading plan or final subdivision map.

2. **Five Percent or Less Slope.** On lots where the slope of the four-sided polygon is five percent or less, the grade of the surface from which structure height is measured shall be a plane established using the average of the elevations at each corner of the four-sided polygon. Example: $A + B + C + D = X$; $X/4 = \text{Established grade elevation from which to measure structure height}$.
3. **More than Five Percent Slope.**
 - a. On lots where the slope of the four-sided polygon is greater than five percent, the established grade from which structure height is measured shall be a plane established by determining the elevation of the lot at five evenly spaced points along each of the two side property lines and connecting each of the points along a side property line with the corresponding point on the opposite side property line.
 - b. The five evenly spaced points along each side property line shall be located so that one point is located at the intersection of the front setback line with the side property line and another point is located at the intersection of the rear setback line with the side property line. The other three points along the side property line shall be located so that all five points are equidistant from each other (see Figure 3-3).

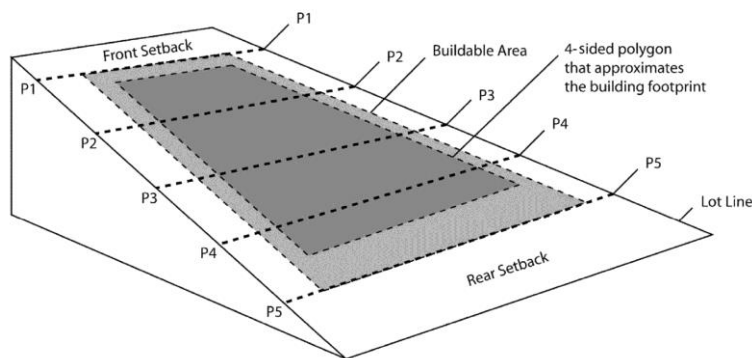


Figure 3- 3 Slope Greater than Five Percent

- c. On lots that slope an average of twenty (20) percent or greater, or on irregularly shaped or sloping lots, the Director may require that additional points of elevation be provided.
- C. **Establishment of Grade by Director.** If the Director finds that the existing grade on the subject lot has been previously altered (e.g., contains retaining structures, property line walls, planters, or excavation/fill), or other conditions are present to the degree that the existing grade is not representative of the prevailing grades on adjoining lots and/or the general area and, therefore, is not appropriate for the purpose of establishing the grade of the subject lot, the Director may establish the grade that is reasonable and comparable with the grades of adjoining lots and that will not be detrimental or injurious to property and improvements on adjoining lots.

21.30.060 – Height Limits and Exceptions

- A. This section establishes regulations for determining compliance with the maximum allowable height limits established for each coastal zoning district by Part 2 of this title (Coastal Zoning Districts, Allowable Land Uses, and Coastal Zoning District Standards).
- B. **Height of Structures and Measurement.**
1. **Structure Height Established.** Structures shall not exceed the maximum allowable height for the coastal zoning district in which the structure is located, except as provided in subsection (C) of this section (Increase in Height Limit) or subsection (D) of this section (Exceptions to Height Limits).
 2. **Height Measurement.** Height shall be measured as the vertical distance from the established grade of the pad to the highest part of the structure, including any protective guardrails and parapet walls. Structures with sloping roofs shall be measured to the highest peak of the roof. Structures with flat roofs shall be measured to the top of the roof, guardrail, or parapet wall. The established grade of the pad shall be determined by one of the methods identified in Section 21.30.050 (Grade Establishment).
 3. **Flood Hazard Areas.**
 - a. **Finished First Floor Elevation.** The minimum required top of slab elevation for interior living areas of all new structures within flood hazard areas shall be as established by the Flood Insurance Rate Maps recognized by the Building Division as part of flood safety requirements and maps adopted by the Council. Notwithstanding the building elevations established by the Flood Insurance Rate Maps, the minimum required top of slab elevation for interior living areas of all new structures shall be at least 9.00 (NAVD 88).
 - b. **Height Measurement.** The height of a principal structure shall be measured from the top of slab elevation.
 - c. **Accessory Structures.**
 - i. The height of accessory structures, except fences, hedges, walls, and retaining walls (see Section 21.30.040) shall be measured from existing grade of the lot prior to construction.
 - ii. Exception: When a new principal building is required to have the top of slab constructed at elevation 9.00 NAVD88 and when the grade surrounding the new principal building is proposed to be increased, the height of accessory structures shall be measured from the proposed finished grade.
 4. **Structures on Ocean Boulevard.** New structures and additions/changes to existing structures on the bluff side of Ocean Boulevard in Corona del Mar shall not be constructed to a height greater than the elevation of the adjacent curb. The top

of curb height limit shall be established by a plane created by the extension of the top of curb line across each lot.

C. Increase in Height Limit.

1. **Procedure.** The height limits established in Part 2 of this title (Coastal Zoning Districts, Allowable Land Uses, and Coastal Zoning District Standards) may be increased within specified areas with approval of a coastal development permit when all applicable findings are met in compliance with subsection (C)(3) of this section (Required Findings). Height limits established as part of an adopted planned community shall not be subject to this subsection (See 21.26.050 (Planned Community Coastal Zoning District Property Development Standards)).
2. **Height Limit Areas.** The height limit areas shall be as follows:
 - a. **R-A, R-1, R-BI, and R-2 Coastal Zoning Districts Height Limit Area.** In this height limit area the base height limit for structures with flat roofs is twenty-four (24) feet (including guardrails and parapet walls) and the base height limit for structures with sloped roofs is twenty-nine (29) feet. The height of a structure may be increased up to a maximum of twenty-eight (28) feet with a flat roof or thirty-three (33) feet with a sloped roof through the approval of a coastal development permit as provided above. This height limit applies in all R-A, R-1, R-BI, and R-2 Coastal Zoning Districts as shown on the Coastal Zoning Map.
 - b. **RM and RMD Coastal Zoning Districts Height Limit Area.** In this height limit area the base height limit for structures with flat roofs is twenty-eight (28) feet (including guardrails and parapet walls) and the base height limit for structures with sloped roofs is thirty-three (33) feet. The height of a structure may be increased up to a maximum of thirty-two (32) feet with a flat roof or thirty-seven (37) feet with a sloped roof through the approval of a coastal development permit as provided above. This height limit applies in all RM and RMD Coastal Zoning Districts as shown on the Coastal Zoning Map.
 - c. **Nonresidential, Shoreline Height Limit Area.** In this height limit area the base height limit for nonresidential and mixed-use structures with flat roofs is twenty-six (26) feet and the base height limit for structures with sloped roofs is thirty-one (31) feet. The height of a structure may be increased up to a maximum of thirty-five (35) feet with a flat roof or forty (40) feet with a sloped roof through the approval of a coastal development permit application as provided above. The shoreline height limit shall apply to all nonresidential coastal zoning districts and mixed-use coastal zoning districts within the boundaries of the Shoreline Height Limit Area shown on the High Rise and Shoreline Height Limit Areas Map (See Map H-1, attached to the ordinance codified in this title).
 - d. **Nonresidential, Nonshoreline Height Limit Area.** In this height limit area the base height limit for nonresidential and mixed-use structures with flat roofs is thirty-two (32) feet and the base height limit for structures with sloped roofs is thirty-seven (37) feet. The height of a structure may be

increased up to a maximum of fifty (50) feet with a flat roof or fifty-five (55) feet with a sloped roof through the approval of a coastal development permit as provided above. This height limit shall apply to all nonresidential, nonshoreline coastal zoning districts and mixed-use coastal zoning districts within its boundaries. The nonresidential, nonshoreline height limit area is identified as all of the area outside the Shoreline Height Limit Area shown on the High Rise and Shoreline Height Limit Areas Map (See Map H-1, attached to the ordinance codified in this title).

- e. **High Rise Height Area.** In this height limit area, the maximum height limit shall be three hundred (300) feet and no further increase to the maximum allowed height is available. This height limit is applicable to all nonresidential coastal zoning districts within its boundaries as indicated on the High Rise and Shoreline Height Limit Areas Map (See Map H-1, attached to the ordinance codified in this title).

- 3. **Required Findings.** The review authority may adopt approve a coastal development permit to allow an increase in the height of a structure above the height limit only after first making all of the following findings in addition to the findings required in Section 21.52.040:

- a. The project is sited and designed to protect public views to and along the ocean and scenic coastal areas; and
- b. The project is sited and designed to minimize visual impacts and be visually compatible with the character of surrounding areas; and
- c. Where feasible, the project will restore and enhance visual quality in visually degraded areas.

D. Exceptions to Height Limits.

- 1. **Assembly and Meeting Facilities.** Structures used as places of worship may be allowed to exceed the height limit subject to the approval of a coastal development permit in compliance with Chapter 21.52. Where more than one structure exists or is proposed for the site, only the principal structure shall be eligible for approval to exceed the maximum height limit.
- 2. **Architectural Features.** Architectural features (e.g., cupolas, weathervanes, and other decorative rooftop features) of an open nature, but excluding guardrails, parapet walls, and similar features, may be allowed up to the height limit for a sloped roof. Architectural features with a height greater than that allowed for a sloped roof shall be subject to the approval of a coastal development permit.
- 3. **Boat Cranes.** Boat cranes used in conjunction with an approved marine-oriented nonresidential use may be allowed to exceed the maximum height limit up to a maximum operating height of seventy (70) feet, subject to the approval of a minor use permit.
- 4. **Chimneys and Vents.** Chimneys and spark arrestors for fireplaces and roof-mounted vents shall be allowed to exceed the allowed height limits as follows:

- a. Chimneys may extend above the allowed height limit a maximum of two feet or a greater height if required by the City's Building Code;
 - b. Spark arrestors may extend above the top of a chimney a maximum of two feet, provided they do not exceed a width of two feet and a length of four feet; and
 - c. Roof-mounted vents may extend above the allowed height limit a maximum of twelve (12) inches or a greater height if required by the City's Building Code.
- 5. **Dormers.** Dormers may be allowed to exceed the maximum height; provided, that:
 - a. The total width of the dormer that exceeds the height limit shall not be greater than thirty-five (35) percent of the length of the side of the structure where the dormer is located;
 - b. The roof pitch of the dormer shall not be less than 2:12; and
 - c. The peak of the dormer shall not be higher than the peak of the roof on which it is located.
- 6. **Elevator Shafts, Enclosed Stairwells.** Elevator shafts and enclosed stairwell housings may exceed the allowed height limit by the minimum height required by Title 15 (Building and Construction), provided they do not exceed thirty (30) square feet in area, unless a larger elevator is required by Title 15 and/or the Fire Department. In these instances, the area of the elevator or stair housing shall not exceed the minimum size required by Title 15 and/or the Fire Department. Elevator shafts and enclosed stairwell housings that exceed thirty (30) square feet in area shall have sloped roofs with a minimum 3/12 pitch.
- 7. **Fences, Hedges, and Walls.** Section 21.30.040 (Fences, Hedges, Walls, and Retaining Walls) sets forth exceptions to height limits for these structures.
- 8. **Flag Poles.**
 - a. Ground-mounted flag poles shall be allowed in residential coastal zoning districts to a maximum height of twenty-eight (28) feet and in nonresidential coastal zoning districts to a maximum height of thirty-five (35) feet.
 - b. Flag poles mounted on tops of buildings located in nonresidential coastal zoning districts shall be allowed to exceed the maximum height limit by up to twenty (20) feet.
- 9. **Landmark Buildings.** An alteration or addition to a landmark building shall be exempt from height limits; provided, that structural alterations or additions that exceed the height of the existing structure shall require approval of a coastal development permit in compliance with Chapter 21.52 and shall not exceed a maximum of fifty-five (55) feet in height. The coastal development permit may be

approved only if all of the following findings are first made in addition to those findings identified in Section 21.52.040:

- a. The portion of the structural alteration or addition that exceeds the height of the existing structure does not significantly impact public views from public rights-of-way.
 - b. The portion of the structural alteration or addition that exceeds the height of the existing structure will not be used in a manner that increases the intensity of the use of the landmark building.
 - c. The allowed height of the landmark building will not be detrimental to the health, safety, peace, comfort, or general welfare of persons residing or working in the neighborhood of the landmark building.
10. **Light Standards.** Light standards may be allowed to exceed maximum height limits, subject to the approval of a coastal development permit in compliance with Chapter 21.52. All light fixtures and standards shall comply with the requirements of Section 21.30.070 (Outdoor Lighting).
11. **Mechanical Equipment.**
 - a. **Nonresidential Coastal Zoning Districts.** In nonresidential coastal zoning districts, roof-mounted mechanical equipment, totaling not more than thirty (30) percent of the total roof area, including required screening devices, shall be allowed to exceed the maximum height limit by up to five feet.
 - b. **Residential Coastal Zoning Districts.** In residential coastal zoning districts, roof-mounted equipment is not allowed to exceed the maximum height limit for the coastal zoning district.
12. **Solar Equipment.** The height limit regulations in this Implementation Plan do not apply to equipment and panels used for the production of solar energy.
13. **Skylights and Roof Windows.** Skylights or roof windows shall be allowed to exceed the maximum height limit by up to six inches on conforming roofs.
14. **Marina Park Lighthouse Feature.** A single, up to maximum 73-foot- tall faux lighthouse architectural tower, that creates an iconic landmark for the public to identify the site from land and water as a boating safety feature, may be allowed. No further exceptions to the height limit shall be allowed, including but not limited to, exceptions for architectural features, solar equipment or flag poles. Any architectural tower that exceeds the 35-foot height limit shall not include floor area above the 35-foot height limit, but shall house screened communications or emergency equipment, and shall be sited and designed to reduce adverse visual impacts and be compatible with the character of the area by among other things, incorporating a tapered design with a maximum diameter of 34-feet at the base of the tower. Public viewing opportunities shall be provided above the 35-feet, as feasible.

21.30.065 – Signs

- A. **Applicability.** This section provides regulations for roof top and freestanding signs.
- B. **Prohibited Sign Types.** The following signs and sign types shall be prohibited throughout all coastal zoning districts of the City.
1. Pole signs.
 2. Roof signs.
- C. **Billboard Policy.** The City completely prohibits the construction, erection or use of billboards, other than those that legally exist in the City, or for which a valid permit has been issued and has not expired, as of the date on which this provision was first adopted. The City adopts this policy in compliance with California Government Code Section 65850 and California Business and Professions Code Sections 5354(a) and 5408.3 (both effective January 1, 2003). Permits shall not be issued for billboards that violate this policy, and the City will take immediate abatement action against billboards constructed or maintained in violation of this policy. The Council affirmatively declares that it would have adopted this billboard policy even if it were the only provision in this chapter. The Council intends for this billboard policy to be severable and separately enforceable even if other provisions of this chapter may be declared, by a court of competent jurisdiction, to be unconstitutional, invalid, or unenforceable. This provision does not prohibit agreements to relocate existing, legal billboards, as encouraged by Business and Professions Code Section 5412.
- D. **Standards for Freestanding Signs.** Table 21.30-2 provides regulations for permanent freestanding signs.

Table 21.30-2 Freestanding Signs							
Sign Class	Allowed Sign Types	Maximum Number	Maximum Sign Area	Maximum Sign Height	Location Requirements	Lighting Allowed	Additional Requirements
RESIDENTIAL COASTAL ZONING DISTRICTS							
Identification sign Multi-unit uses	Ground sign	1 per multiunit use	12 sq. ft.		Near main entrance	Yes	Cabinet signs not allowed
Residential community identification signs	Ground	2 per primary entrance	40 sq. ft. total	6 ft.	At primary entrances to residential community	Indirect only	Cabinet signs not allowed
Signs for allowed nonresidential uses	Ground sign	1 per use	12 sq. ft.		Near main entrance	Yes	Cabinet signs not allowed
COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL COASTAL ZONING DISTRICTS							

On-site sign	Freestanding signs. Permitted on sites with minimum 50 ft. of frontage.	1 freestanding sign allowed per site. May be used in combination with other allowed building signs. Additional signs for sites with more than 300 linear feet of street frontage through the approval of a Comprehensive Sign Program.	1.0 sq. ft. of sign area per lineal foot of primary street frontage, 75 sq. ft. max. per sign	Not to exceed 20 ft. in height for pylon signs, or 8 ft. maximum height and 6 ft. maximum average height for monument signs.	Located on street frontage only. At least 15 feet from any building sign and 50 feet from any freestanding sign on an adjacent site.	Yes	
Business Directory. Multi-tenant site.	Ground sign	1 per multi-tenant site.	8 sq. ft. of sign area.	8 ft. maximum. 6 ft. maximum average.	Near main entrance and oriented to pedestrians.	No	
OS, PI, PR, AND PF COASTAL ZONING DISTRICTS							
On-site sign.	Freestanding signs. Permitted on sites with minimum 50 ft. of frontage.	1 freestanding monument sign allowed per site. May be used in combination with other allowed building signs. Additional signs for sites with more than 300 linear feet of street frontage through the approval of a Comprehensive Sign Program.	1.0 sq. ft. of sign area per lineal foot of primary street frontage, 75 sq. ft. max. per sign	8 ft.	Located on street frontage only. At least 15 feet from any building sign and 50 feet from any freestanding sign on an adjacent site.	Yes	
Directory sign.	Ground sign.	1 per multi-tenant site.	8 sq. ft. of sign area.	8 ft. maximum. 6 ft. maximum average.	Near main entrance and oriented to pedestrians.	No	

- E. **Removal of Nonconforming Signs.** The nonconforming roof and pool signs shall be removed or altered to be conforming by October 27, 2020, with the exception of signs designated as heritage signs.

21.30.070 – Outdoor Lighting

This section establishes outdoor lighting standards in order to reduce the impacts of glare, light trespass, overlighting, sky glow, and poorly shielded or inappropriately directed lighting fixtures, and promote safety and encourage energy conservation.

A. General Outdoor Lighting Standards.

1. All outdoor lighting fixtures shall be designed, shielded, aimed, located, and maintained to shield adjacent properties and to not produce glare onto adjacent properties or roadways. Parking lot light fixtures and light fixtures on buildings shall be full cut-off fixtures.

2. Flashing, revolving, or intermittent exterior lighting visible from any property line or street shall be prohibited, except if approved as an accessory feature on a temporary basis in conjunction with a special event permit.
 3. A photometric study may be required as part of an application for a coastal development permit if it is determined that there is potential for a negative impact to surrounding land uses or sensitive habitat areas.
 4. If in the opinion of the Director existing illumination creates an unacceptable negative impact on surrounding land uses or sensitive habitat areas the Director may order the dimming of light sources or other remediation upon finding that the site is excessively illuminated.
- B. **Light Standards within Parking Lots.** Light standards within parking lots shall be the minimum height required to effectively illuminate the parking area and eliminate spillover of light and glare onto adjoining properties and roadways. To accomplish this, a greater number of shorter light standards may be required as opposed to a lesser number of taller standards.
- C. **Outdoor Lighting Standards for Buildings, Statues, Other Manmade Objects, and Landscapes.** Spotlighting or floodlighting used to illuminate buildings, statues, signs, or any other objects mounted on a pole, pedestal, or platform or used to accentuate landscaping shall consist of full cut-off or directionally shielded lighting fixtures that are aimed and controlled so that the directed light shall be substantially confined to the object intended to be illuminated to minimize glare, sky glow, and light trespass. The beam width shall not be wider than that needed to light the feature with minimum spillover. The lighting shall not shine directly into the window of a residence or directly into a roadway. Light fixtures attached to a building shall be directed downward.

21.30.075 – Landscaping

- A. **Applicability.** This section applies to coastal development permit applications for nonresidential projects and multi-unit residential projects and single-unit and two-unit residential projects containing a beach, wetland, or sand dune, coastal bluff, coastal canyon, or within 50 feet of the edge of a coastal bluff or stream, or in an environmentally sensitive habitat area shall provide landscaping in compliance with this section.
- B. **General Landscape Standards.**
1. **Impervious Surfaces in R-1 and R-2 Coastal Zoning Districts.**
 - a. Impervious surface areas, excluding driveways, shall not exceed fifty (50) percent of the front yard area with the remaining area landscaped with plant material. The use of pervious materials for walkways, porches, and outdoor living areas is allowed.
 - b. Where the typical neighborhood pattern of front yards has been developed with hardscaped outdoor living areas that exceed the fifty (50) percent maximum for impervious surfaces the Director may waive this requirement.

2. **Safety Requirements.** Landscape materials shall be located so that at maturity they do not:
 - a. Interfere with safe sight distances for vehicular, bicycle, or pedestrian traffic in compliance with Section 21.30.130 (Traffic Safety Visibility Area);
 - b. Conflict with overhead utility lines, overhead lights, or walkway lights; or
 - c. Block roadways, pedestrian access, or bicycle ways.
3. **Plant Selection and Grouping.** Plant materials shall be selected for low water demand and drought tolerance; adaptability and relationship to the Newport Beach environment, and the geological and topographical conditions of the site; color, form, and pattern; ability to provide shade; and soil retention capability.
 - a. **Drought Tolerant Species.** Landscape designs shall emphasize the use of drought tolerant plant species (xeriscape).
 - b. **Invasive Plant Species.** Invasive plants are generally those identified by the California Invasive Plant Council and California Native Plant Society in their publications. The planting of invasive species shall be prohibited in the following areas:
 - i. Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas (ESHA) and ESHA buffer areas.
 - ii. Fuel modification areas abutting an ESHA and sites where a biological survey has identified significant natural habitat.
 - ii. Natural habitat and non-urbanized areas
 - iv. Within fifty (50) feet of a designated environmentally sensitive habitat area.
 - c. **Dune Habitats.** Plant materials in southern coastal foredune and southern dune scrub habitat areas shall be restricted to native plant species.
 - d. **ESHA Buffers.** See Chapter 21.30B (Environmentally Sensitive Areas).
 - e. **Deciduous Trees.** Landscape designs shall maximize the use of deciduous trees.
 - f. **Grouping of Plants.** Plants having similar water use requirements shall be grouped together in distinct hydrozones.
4. **Maintenance.**
 - a. Landscape materials and landscaped areas shall be maintained in compliance with an approved landscape plan.

- b. Landscaped areas shall be maintained in a healthy and growing condition and shall receive regular pruning, fertilizing, mowing and trimming.
 - c. Landscaped areas shall be kept free of weeds, debris, and other undesirable materials.
 - d. Irrigation systems shall be kept in good operating condition, including adjustments, replacements, repairs, and cleaning as part of regular maintenance. Adjustments to eliminate overspray or runoff shall be made on a regular basis.
 - e. The non-native and invasive ornamental plant species shall be removed in areas where such materials are restricted or prohibited by subsection (2)(e) of this Section.
 - f. Landscape materials and landscaped areas shall be maintained to minimize impacts to public viewsheds to the greatest extent feasible.
- C. **Water Waste Prohibited.** Water waste resulting from an inefficient irrigation system leading to excessive runoff, low head drainage, overspray, and other similar conditions where water flows onto adjacent property, nonirrigated areas, walks, roadways, or structures is prohibited.
- D. **Fuel Modification.** This subsection provides standards for development within and adjacent to wildland fire hazard areas.
- 1. **New Development.** New development within or adjacent to areas of high and moderate fire susceptibility shall be located and designed to avoid the need to extend fuel modification zones into an ESHA.
 - 2. **Sensitive Habitat Areas.** Fuel modification zones in buffer zones abutting an ESHA shall consist of fire-resistive, native plant species from the City-approved plant list.
 - 3. **Invasive Plants Prohibited.** Invasive ornamental plant species shall be prohibited in fuel modification zones abutting an ESHA and sites where a biological survey has identified significant natural habitat.

21.30.085 – Water Efficient Landscaping

- A. **Applicability.** All planting, irrigation, and landscape-related improvements required by this section shall apply to the following:
- 1. New landscape installations or landscape rehabilitation projects by public agencies or private nonresidential developers with a landscaped area equal to or greater than two thousand five hundred (2,500) square feet or which otherwise require a ministerial permit for a landscape or water feature;
 - 2. New landscape installations or landscape rehabilitation projects by developers or property managers of single-unit and multiple-unit residential projects or

complexes with a landscaped area equal to or greater than two thousand five hundred (2,500) square feet or which otherwise require a ministerial permit for a landscape or water feature;

3. New landscape installation projects or landscape rehabilitation projects installed by individual homeowners on single-unit or multiple-unit residential lots with a total project landscaped area equal to or greater than five thousand (5,000) square feet or which otherwise require a ministerial permit for a landscape or water feature;

B. Exceptions. This section does not apply to:

1. Landscape rehabilitation projects that consist of replacement plantings with equal or lower water needs and the irrigation system is designed, operable and programmed to comply with the City's water conservation regulations;
2. Registered local, State, or Federal historical sites;
3. Ecological restoration projects that do not require a permanent irrigation system;
4. Plant collections, as part of botanical gardens and arboretums open to the public; or
5. Landscape in hazard reduction and fuel modification zones, where applicable.

C. Landscape Water Use Standards. For new landscape installation or rehabilitation projects subject to subsection (A), the estimated applied water use allowed for the landscaped area shall not exceed the Maximum Applied Water Allowance (MAWA) calculated using an evapotranspiration (ET) adjustment factor of 0.7, except for special landscaped areas where the MAWA is calculated using an ET adjustment factor of 1.0; or the design of the landscaped area shall otherwise be shown to be equivalently water efficient in a manner acceptable to the City.

21.30.100 – Scenic and Visual Quality Protection

A. Purpose. The purpose of this section is to insure that development shall be sited and designed to protect and, where feasible, enhance the scenic and visual qualities of the Coastal Zone, including public views to and along the ocean, bay, and harbor and to coastal bluffs and other scenic coastal areas.

B. Initial Evaluation. Any coastal development permit application involving the construction of a new building or the expansion of an existing building and having one or more of the characteristics listed below, shall be reviewed to evaluate the development's impact to a public viewshed or the scenic and visual qualities of the Coastal Zone.

1. The project site is located between the first public roadway paralleling ocean, bay, harbor, channels, estuary, marsh, or slough.
2. The project site is located on a coastal bluff or canyon.

3. The project site is adjacent to a public view point, coastal view road, public park or beach, or public accessway.
 4. The project site contains significant natural landforms or natural vegetation.
- C. **Visual Impact Analysis.** Where a proposed development has the potential to significantly impact a public viewshed or the scenic and visual qualities of the Coastal Zone, a view impact analysis may be required by the Department. The view impact analysis shall be prepared at the project proponent's expense. The analysis shall include recommendations to minimize impacts to public views from the identified public view points and corridors while allowing the project to proceed while maintaining development rights.
- D. **Siting and Design.** Projects shall be sited and designed in accordance with the following principles, as appropriate:
1. Minimize impacts to public coastal views and, where feasible, restore and enhance the scenic and visual qualities of the Coastal Zone.
 2. Development on the edges of public coastal view corridors, including those down public streets, shall be designed and sited, to frame and accent public coastal views.
 3. Clustering of buildings to provide open view and access corridors to the Harbor.
 4. Modulation of building volume and mass.
 5. Variation of building heights.
 6. Inclusion of porticoes, arcades, windows, and other "see-through" elements in addition to the defined open corridor.
 7. Minimization of landscape, fencing, parked cars, and other nonstructural elements that block views and access to the Harbor.
 8. Prevention of the appearance of the harbor being walled off from the public right-of-way.
 9. Inclusion of setbacks that in combination with setbacks on adjoining parcels cumulatively form functional view corridors.
 10. Encourage adjoining property owners to combine their view corridors to achieve a larger cumulative corridor than would be achieved independently.
 11. Where feasible, development along coastal view roads shall prevent an appearance of the public right-of-way being walled off from the public viewsheds.
- E. **Landform Alteration.** Development shall be sited and designed to minimize the alteration of gullies, ravines, rock outcroppings, and other natural landforms and the

removal of native vegetation. Site design and construction techniques include, but not limited to the following:

1. Siting development on the flattest area of the site, except when an alternative location is more protective of coastal resources.
 2. Utilizing existing driveways and building pads to the maximum extent feasible.
 3. Clustering building sites.
 4. Shared use of driveways.
 5. Designing buildings to conform to the natural contours of the site, and arranging driveways and patio areas to be compatible with the slopes and building design.
 6. Utilizing special foundations, such as stepped, split level, or cantilever designs.
 7. Detaching parts of the development, such as a garage from a dwelling unit.
 8. Requiring any altered slopes to blend into the natural contours of the site.
- F. **Landscape Standards.** Landscape improvements shall be installed and maintained to ensure that landscape materials do not unnecessarily obstruct public views at maturity. Landscaping at the edges of roads from which there is an identified public view should be designed, planted and maintained to frame and accent public views.
- G. **Utilities.** New utility connections and appurtenant and associated utility equipment shall be placed underground unless the Public Works Director determines that undergrounding is physically infeasible.
- H. **Other Development Features.** Freestanding signs, rooftop equipment, antennas, wireless telecommunication facilities, and other project features shall be sited and designed to ensure they minimize impacts to public views.
- I. **View Protection Easement.** The review authority may require applicants to provide public view protection easements to protect public views.

21.30.105 – Cultural Resource Protection

A. **Archaeological/Palaeontological Resources.**

1. **Applicability.** The requirements in this subsection of this section shall apply to all coastal development permit applications that involve grading or excavation and that have one or more of the following characteristics:
 - a. Projects located within 300 feet of an identified paleontological/archaeological site or areas identified by the City as having potential paleontological/archaeological sites.

- b. Where evidence of potentially significant paleontological/archaeological resources is found in an initial study conducted pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).
- 2. **Procedures.** All applicable projects shall comply with the following procedures:
 - a. **Report Required.**
 - i. **When Report Required.** When a development is proposed in an area where there are known archaeological or palaeontological resources on the site or in the vicinity, and for which the Director determines no adequate prior assessment of on-site resources has been completed, a report shall be prepared by a qualified archaeologist/paleontologist before the issuance of a coastal development permit.
 - ii. **Elements of Report.** At a minimum, the report shall include a statement of the qualifications of the preparer, a statement of the types and quantities of resources expected to be encountered, identification of their significance, the impacts of the development on those resources, and mitigation measures designed to reduce or eliminate those impacts.
 - iii. **Notice.** Cultural organizations, including Native American organizations, shall be notified of proposed developments that have the potential to adversely impact cultural resources.
 - b. **Monitor required.** Where there is potential for proposed development activity to adversely affect archaeological/palaeontological resources, a qualified paleontologist/archeologist shall monitor all grading and/or excavation activities. If grading operations or excavations uncover palaeontological/archaeological resources, the monitor shall suspend all development activity to avoid destruction of resources until a determination can be made as to the significance of the palaeontological/archaeological resources.
 - c. **Discovery of Resources.** If grading or excavation activities uncover archaeological/palaeontological resources, the following procedures shall be followed:
 - i. The monitor shall suspend development activity to avoid destruction of resources until a determination can be made as to the significance of the archaeological/palaeontological resources ;
 - ii. The monitor shall immediately notify the Director of the discovery ; and
 - iii. If the resource is found to be significant, the site(s) shall be preserved for a reasonable period of time, as determined by the monitor, to allow a recovery plan or preservation to be completed to ensure the protection of the resources.

- d. **Mitigation Measures.** If resources are determined to be significant a mitigation plan shall be submitted to the Director for review and approval. The plan shall include:
- i. Demonstration of a good faith effort to avoid impacts to the resources through measures including project redesign, in situ preservation/capping, recovery and/or relocation, and placing cultural resource areas in open space;
 - ii. A monitoring plan that:
 - (1) Describes procedures for selecting a qualified archaeologist/palaeontologist, and a Native American monitor if necessary, to monitor all grading and/or excavation activities;
 - (2) Identifies monitoring methods; and
 - (3) Describes procedures that shall be followed if additional or unexpected archaeological/palaeontological resources are discovered during development of the site. Procedures may include provisions for cessation of all grading and construction activities in the area of the discovery that has any potential to uncover or otherwise disturb cultural deposits in the area of the discovery and all construction that may foreclose mitigation options to allow for significance testing, additional investigation, and mitigation.

B. Historical and Architectural Resources.

1. **Applicability.** The requirements in this subsection of this section shall apply to all coastal development permit applications involving the expansion, reconstruction, structural alteration, or demolition of structures or sites having one or more of the characteristics listed below:
- a. A site listed, or containing a building, monument, object, or structure that is listed, on the:
 - i. Newport Beach Register of Historical Property;
 - ii. California Register of Historical Resources; or
 - iii. National Register of Historic Places.
 - b. A site where evidence of potentially significant historical resources is found in an initial study conducted in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code Sections 21000 et seq.).

2. **Initial Evaluation.** An application for approval of any project or development activity involving a historic resource identified in Subsection A, above, shall be reviewed to determine whether the project may have a substantial adverse impact as defined by the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), on an historical resource.
3. **Site-Specific Study.** If the initial evaluation indicates that the proposed development may result in significant impacts to historical resources, the Director shall have the authority to require a site-specific study to be performed by a qualified professional. The study shall describe the significance of the resources; discuss the possible adverse impacts; and identify mitigation measures designed to reduce or eliminate those impacts.
4. **Rehabilitation Incentives.** The following incentives may be available to owners of historic properties identified in Subsection (A)(1) (Applicability), above:
 - a. To promote adaptive reuse, the State Historic Building Code may be applied to buildings or structures; and
 - b. The Commission may grant reductions or waivers of City application fees, City permit fees, and/or any liens placed by the City on properties listed in the Newport Beach Register of Historical Property in exchange for preservation easements.
5. **Offer for Relocation of Historic Structure.** Before issuance of a permit by the Building Director for the demolition of an historic structure the applicant shall first offer the structure for relocation by interested parties.

21.30.110 – Setback Regulations and Exceptions

This section establishes standards to ensure the provision of open areas around structures for: visibility and traffic safety; access to and around structures; access to natural light and ventilation; separation of incompatible land uses; space for privacy, landscaping, and recreation; protection of natural resources; and safety from fire and geologic hazards.

A. Setback Requirements.

1. Structures.

- a. **Principal Structures.** Principal structures shall conform with the setback requirements established for:
 - (1) Each coastal zoning district in Part 2 of this title (Coastal Zoning Districts, Allowable Land Uses, and Coastal Zoning District Standards);
 - (2) Any specific uses identified in Part 4 of this title (Standards for Specific Land Uses);

- (3) Any special setback areas established in Section 21.28.040 (Bluff (B) Overlay District) or Section 21.28.050 (Canyon (C) Overlay District); and
 - (4) Any other special setback areas established in this Implementation Plan.
 - b. **Accessory Structures.** All accessory structures shall comply with the setback requirements established for:
 - (1) Accessory structures in subsection (D)(2) of this section (Accessory Structures) and any allowed encroachments; and
 - (2) Any special setback areas established in this Implementation Plan.
 - 2. **Setback Areas to Be Open.** Each required setback area shall be open and unobstructed from the ground upward, except as provided in this section.
- B. **Location and Measurement of Setbacks.** Setbacks shall be located and measured as follows:
- 1. **General.**
 - a. **Measure at Right Angles.** The distance/depth of a setback area (i.e., front, side, or rear) shall be measured at right angles from the nearest property line establishing a setback area line parallel to that property line.
 - b. **Future Street Right-of-Way.** Whenever a future street right-of-way line is officially established, required setback areas shall be measured at right angles from the established future right-of-way line(s).
 - 2. **Front Setback Area.**
 - a. **General.** The front setback area shall extend across the entire width of the lot frontage.
 - b. **Corner Lots.** The front setback area for a corner lot shall be the required distance parallel to the shortest property line adjoining the street.
 - 3. **Side Setback Area.** The side setback area shall be established by a line parallel with the side property line and extending between the front and rear setback areas.
 - 4. **Street Side Setback Area.** The side setback area on the street side of a corner lot shall be established by a line parallel with the side property line adjoining the street and extending between the front and rear setback areas.
 - 5. **Rear Setback Area.**
 - a. **General.** The rear setback area shall extend across the entire width of the rear of the lot.

- b. **Irregularly Shaped Lots.** Where the side lot lines converge to a point at the rear of the lot and make an angle ninety (90) degrees or less, a line ten (10) feet long within the lot, parallel to and at a maximum distance from the front lot line, shall be deemed to be the rear lot line for the purpose of determining the depth of the required rear setback area. Where the angle created by the convergence of two side lot lines at the rear of the lot is greater than ninety (90) degrees, a line ten (10) feet long measured from the point of convergence and perpendicular to the front lot line shall establish the location of the required rear setback line. See Figure 3-4 (Rear Setback Areas on Irregularly Shaped Lots).

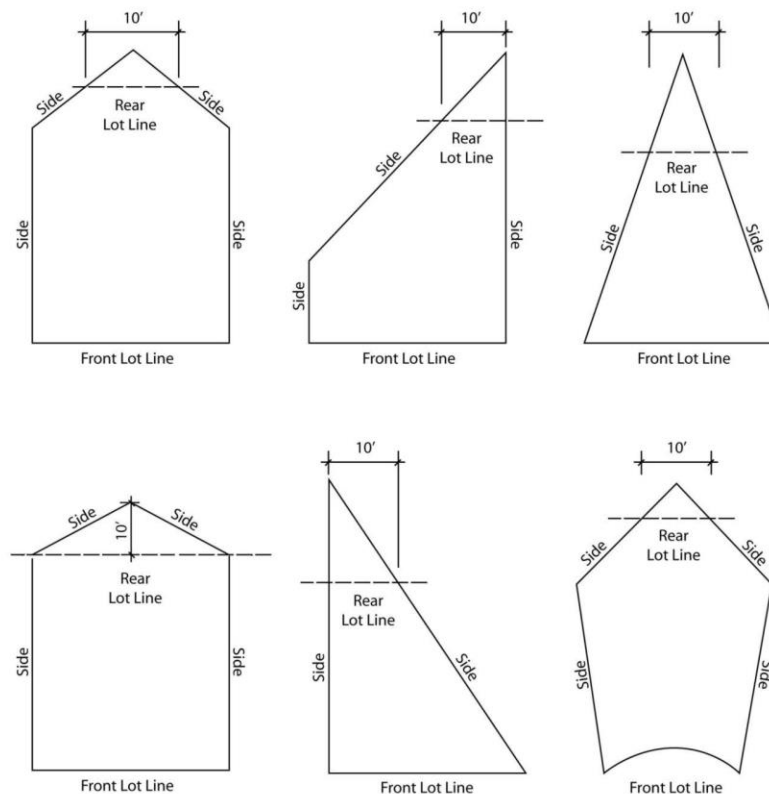


Figure 3-4

Rear Setback Areas on Irregularly Shaped Lots

- C. **Alternative Setback Area Location.** In cases where the orientation of an existing lot and the application of the setback area are not consistent with the character or general orientation of other lots in the vicinity, the Director may redefine the location of the front, side, and rear setback areas to be consistent with surrounding properties. The reorientation of setback areas is not applicable to the Bluff Overlay District and Canyon Overlay District.
- D. **Allowed Encroachments into Setback Areas.** Encroachments into required setback areas are allowed in compliance with the standards in this subsection, except as provided in subsection (D)(1) of this section.

1. **General Regulations.**

- a. **Setbacks on Setback Maps.** Notwithstanding any requirements in this section, all setback areas identified on the setback maps shall be regulated as front setback areas.
- b. **Overlay Districts.** The encroachments allowed by this subsection shall not apply to designated bluff and canyon setback areas. Refer to Section 21.28.040 (Bluff (B) Overlay District and Section 21.28.050 (Canyon (C) Overlay District for) setback regulations and encroachments.
- c. **Alleys.** No encroachments at the ground level are allowed within the required setback area of a lot abutting an alley. All alley setback areas shall be clear of obstructions.
- d. **Waterfront Areas.** Allowed encroachments into required setback areas abutting or adjacent to the waterfront of Newport Bay, the shoreline of the Pacific Ocean, the Old Channel of the Santa River (the Oxbow Loop), or the channels in West Newport shall not exceed a height of forty-two (42) inches above the existing grade.
- e. **Traffic Safety Visibility Areas.** See Section 21.30.130 for restrictions on encroachments into traffic safety visibility areas.

2. **Accessory Structures.**

- a. Accessory structures, including housings for mechanical equipment, not more than six feet in height and totaling no more than one hundred fifty (150) square feet per structure, may be located within a required side or rear setback area other than those abutting an alley.
- b. Arbors, trellises, and similar garden structures may be allowed to encroach into required front, side, and rear setback areas subject to the following limits:
 - (1) The maximum footprint of the structure shall not exceed sixteen (16) square feet; and
 - (2) The maximum height of the structure shall not exceed nine feet.
- c. Display areas for new motor vehicles associated with an allowed vehicle sales facility may encroach into a required front or street side setback area, provided a setback of at least two feet is maintained from the street adjacent property line.
- d. Fences, hedges, and walls may be established within required setback areas in compliance with the requirements of Section 21.30.040 (Fences, Hedges, Walls, and Retaining Walls).
- e. Decks, landings, patios, platforms, porches, steps, and terraces, and similar structures not more than eighteen (18) inches in height measured

from the existing grade may be located within a required side or rear setback area other than those abutting an alley.

3. **Architectural Features.**

- a. Roof overhangs, brackets, cornices, and eaves may encroach up to thirty (30) inches into a required front, side, or rear setback area, including required setbacks above twenty-four (24) feet; provided, that no architectural feature shall project closer than thirty (30) inches from a side property line and a minimum vertical clearance above grade of at least eight feet is maintained.
- b. Decorative architectural features (e.g., belt courses, ornamental moldings, pilasters, and similar features) may encroach up to six inches into a required setback area.

4. **Awnings and Canopies.** Awnings and canopies may encroach into required setback areas up to a maximum of five feet subject to the following limits.

a. **Residential Districts.**

- (1) Front: one-half the depth of the required front setback area.
- (2) Side: zero feet, except over doors up to thirty (30) inches from property line, maximum width shall not exceed the standard width of a door plus twelve (12) inches.
- (3) Rear: two and one-half feet.
- (4) Vertical clearance: six and one-half feet above grade.

b. **Nonresidential Districts, Including Mixed-Use Districts.**

- (1) Front: one-half the depth of the required front setback area.
- (2) Side: two feet.
- (3) Rear: one-half the depth of the required rear setback area.
- (4) Vertical clearance: eight feet above grade.

5. **Balconies Abutting East Ocean Front and West Ocean Front.**

- a. Balconies may encroach up to a maximum of thirty-six (36) inches into a required front setback area along East Ocean Front and West Ocean Front. Balcony railings shall not exceed a maximum height of forty-two (42) inches and shall be constructed of either transparent material (except for supports) or opaque material (e.g., decorative grillwork, wrought iron, latticework, or similar open materials) so that at least forty (40) percent of the railing is open.

- b. Balconies shall be cantilevered so that no underlying support is necessary. Roofs over balconies shall not be allowed to encroach into required front setback areas except as provided in subsection (D)(3) of this section (Architectural Features).
- 6. **Bay Windows and Greenhouse Windows.** Bay windows and greenhouse windows shall be allowed to encroach into required setback areas subject to the following limits:
 - a. No more than two bay windows or greenhouse windows shall be allowed to encroach into any one setback area;
 - b. Bay windows and greenhouse windows shall not exceed eight feet in width or ten (10) feet in height within the area of encroachment;
 - c. Bay windows and greenhouse windows shall be cantilevered and shall be designed to preclude use as a door or entry;
 - d. The exterior bottom surface of a bay window or greenhouse window shall be elevated a minimum of eighteen (18) inches above the adjacent finished interior floor surface at the required building setback line;
 - e. Encroachments into required setback areas shall be limited as follows:

**TABLE 21.30-3
ENCROACHMENTS**

Standard	Allowed Encroachment	Additional Regulations
Front setback (4 ft. to less than 10 ft.):	16 in.	
Front setback (10 ft. or more):	2 ft.	
Side setback:	2 ft.	Limited to first floor only. The encroachment shall be at least twenty-four (24) inches from the side property line.
Rear setback:	2 ft.	Not allowed when the rear property line abuts an alley.
Distance between detached structures:	2 ft.	

7. Fireplaces, Barbecues, and Chimneys—Attached.

- a. **Front and Rear Setback Area.** Fireplaces, barbecues, and chimneys attached to the principal structure that are less than nine feet in width may encroach up to two feet into a required front or rear setback area that is ten (10) feet or greater in depth.
- b. **Side Setback Area.** Fireplaces and chimneys attached to the principal structure that are less than nine feet in width may encroach up to thirty (30)

inches into a required side setback area; provided, that the encroachment shall be at least thirty (30) inches from the side property line.

8. **Fireplaces and Barbecues—Freestanding.**

- a. **Front Setback Area.** Freestanding fireplaces (gas only) and barbecues with a maximum height of forty-two (42) inches (not including the barbecue hood) shall be allowed to encroach into the required front setback area, provided the total length of the barbecue and counter does not exceed six feet.
- b. **Side and Rear Setback Area.** Freestanding fireplaces (gas only) and barbecues with a maximum height of six feet shall be allowed to encroach into the required side or rear setback area, provided a minimum thirty-six (36) inch clear path of travel is maintained adjacent to any habitable structures.

9. **Garages and Carports for Duplexes.** Where three parking spaces are located in garages or carports across the rear of a lot that is less than thirty (30) feet ten (10) inches wide, one garage/carport wall or support may encroach into the side setback area subject to the following:

- a. **Distance to Property Line.** The distance from the garage wall or carport support to the nearest side property line shall be not less than twenty-six (26) inches plus the amount that the width of the lot exceeds thirty (30) feet. The other side setback area shall have a clear passageway a minimum of thirty-six (36) inches wide, clear of any obstructions; and
- b. **Width of Garage/Carport.** The width of each garage/carport shall not be greater than the minimum required by Section 21.40.070 (Development Standards for Parking Areas).

10. **Foundations, Basement Walls, and Structural Supports.** Foundations, basement walls, and their structural supports (caissons) that are located completely below grade may encroach into a required setback area up to twelve (12) inches, provided they are located at least twenty-four (24) inches from any property line.

11. **Light Standards.** In nonresidential coastal zoning districts, light standards used in conjunction with the illumination of parking lots and walkways shall be allowed to encroach into a required setback area, provided all of the requirements of Section 21.30.070 (Outdoor Lighting) are complied with.

12. **Protective Railing.** Protective railings around balconies and windows required by Title 15 may encroach up to six inches into a required setback area.

13. **Second Stories Abutting Alleys.** In residential districts having alleys to the rear of the lot or development site, a second story may be allowed to encroach into the required setback area subject to the following conditions and exclusions:

- a. Encroachments shall not extend closer than seven and one-half feet to the center of any alley;
 - b. Encroachments shall not extend closer than two and one-half feet to the rear property line;
 - c. That portion of the building that encroaches into the required rear setback area shall have a minimum ground clearance of eight feet;
 - d. No encroachment shall be allowed on lots having a depth exceeding eighty-five (85) feet; and
 - e. No encroachment shall be allowed on corner lots located at the intersection of two ten (10) foot wide alleys.
14. **Shoring.** Permanent or temporary shoring may encroach into a required setback area, provided it is located completely below finished grade and at least twelve (12) inches from any property line.
15. **Swimming Pools/Spas.** Swimming pools, spas, and other similar devices/equipment that are placed directly upon the existing grade and are less than forty-two (42) inches in height may be located within a required front, side, or rear setback area other than those abutting an alley.

21.30.130 – Traffic Safety Visibility Area

- A. **Visibility at Corners of Intersections Required.** Corner lots in all coastal zoning districts shall be developed in a manner that ensures visibility across the corners of the intersecting streets, alleys, and private driveways.
- B. **Traffic Safety Visibility Area Described.** The traffic safety visibility area shall be described as a triangular-shaped area on a corner lot formed by measuring the prescribed distance from the intersection of the front and street side property lines, an intersecting alley, or an intersecting driveway and connecting the lines diagonally across the property making a triangular area. See Figure 3-5.
- C. **Area of Traffic Safety Visibility Area.** The dimensions of a traffic safety visibility triangle shall be as follows and shall be subject to further review and approval of the City Traffic Engineer:
 - 1. City Standard 110-L shall apply at the intersection of public or private two street rights-of-way and at the intersections of commercial driveways and streets;
 - 2. Fifteen (15) feet from the intersection of a public or private street right-of-way and an alley;
 - 3. Ten (10) feet from the intersection of two alleys. See subsection (E) of this section; and
 - 4. Five feet from the corner of an intersecting street right-of-way and a driveway.

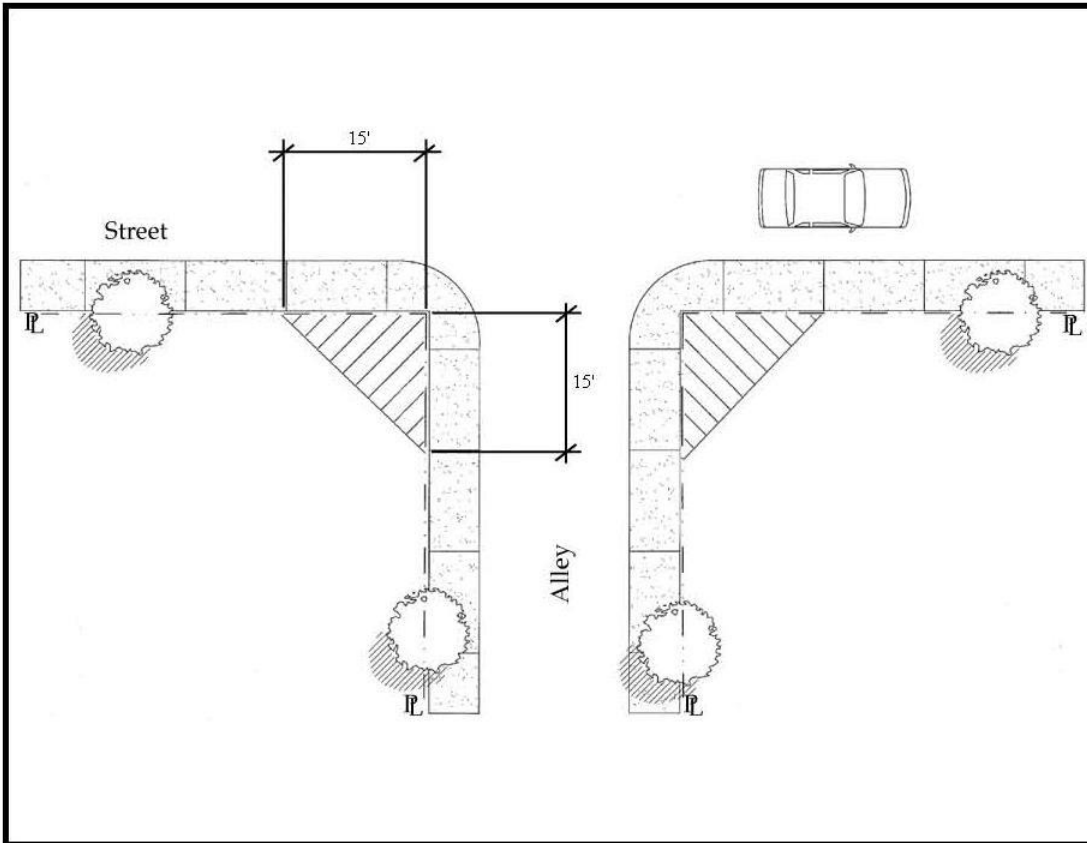


Figure 3-5

Traffic Safety Visibility Area

- D. **Height Limit.** The following height limit requirements shall apply within a traffic safety visibility area;
1. Fences, walls, signs, accessory structures, mounds of earth, or other visual obstructions shall not extend above thirty (30) inches in height as measured from adjacent finished grade;
 2. Hedges, shrubbery, and vegetation shall be maintained to a height of twenty-four (24) inches or less as measured from adjacent finished grade;
 3. Only trees with single trunks are allowed and tree canopies shall be maintained at a minimum height of seven feet above ground level, as measured from adjacent street curb elevation.
- E. **Exemptions to Traffic Safety Visibility Height Limit.**
1. **Alleys.** No above-ground improvements (e.g., fences, walls, accessory structures, mounds of earth, vegetation and similar items) shall be allowed within the traffic safety visibility area required at the intersection of two alleys.

2. **City Traffic Engineer Approval.** Improvements, structures, or vegetation that exceed the allowed height limit for visibility in the traffic safety visibility area may be approved by the City Traffic Engineer if it is determined that the location and/or height of the existing or proposed hedge, shrubbery, structure, or other obstruction allows for the unobstructed view of oncoming traffic, bicyclists, and pedestrians by a driver approaching an intersection including those with private driveways.

21.30.135 – Water Quality Control

- A. **BMP Requirements.** Best management practices (BMPs) shall be incorporated into the project design in the following progression:

1. Site Design BMPs.
2. Source Control BMPs.
3. Treatment Control BMPs.

Site design and source control BMPs shall be required in all developments. When the combination of site design and source control BMPs are not sufficient to protect water quality as required by the Local Coastal Program or Coastal Act, structural treatment BMPs will be implemented along with site design and source control measures.

- B. **Construction Phase – SWPPP.** A storm water pollution prevention plan (SWPPP) shall be required for all development requiring a coastal development permit pursuant to the Water Quality Ordinance. The SWPPP shall identify best management practices (BMPs) that will be used during the construction of the project to reduce the impacts to storm water quality relating to material and waste management.

- C. **Post Construction – WQMP.** A water quality management plan (WQMP) shall be required for all development requiring a coastal development permit pursuant to the Water Quality Ordinance. The WQMP shall identify best management practices (BMPs) that will be used to minimize to the maximum extent practicable dry weather runoff and runoff from small storms (less than 0.75 inch of rain falling over a 24-hour period) from the property.

- D. **Design and Siting.**

1. Development shall be sited on the most suitable portion of the site and designed to ensure the protection and preservation of natural and sensitive site resources by providing for the following:
 - a. Protecting areas that provide important water quality benefits, areas necessary to maintain riparian and aquatic biota and/or that are susceptible to erosion and sediment loss;
 - b. Analyzing the natural resources and hazardous constraints of planning areas and individual development sites to determine locations most suitable for development;
 - c. Preserving and protecting riparian corridors, wetlands, and buffer zones;

- d. Minimizing disturbance of natural areas, including vegetation, significant trees, native vegetation, and root structures;
 - e. Ensuring adequate setbacks from creeks, wetlands, and other environmentally sensitive habitat areas;
 - f. Promoting clustering of development on the most suitable portions of a site by taking into account geologic constraints, sensitive resources, and natural drainage features
 - g. Utilizing design features that meet water quality goals established in site design policies.
2. To the maximum extent feasible, development shall preserve, or where feasible, restore natural hydrologic conditions such that downstream erosion, natural sedimentation rates, surface flow, and groundwater recharge function near natural equilibrium states. Design and siting practices include, but are not limited to, the following:
- a. Limiting the use of curb drains to avoid conveying runoff directly to the City's street drainage system without the benefit of absorption by permeable surfaces and natural treatments such as landscaped areas and planters.
 - b. Minimizing the creation of and increases in impervious surfaces, especially directly connected impervious areas.
 - c. Requiring redevelopment to increase area of pervious surfaces, where feasible.
 - d. Protecting the absorption, purification, and retention functions of natural drainage systems that exist on the site.
 - e. Designing drainage and project plans to complement and utilize existing drainage patterns and systems
 - f. Conveying drainage from the developed area of the site in a non-erosive manner.
 - g. Restoring disturbed or degraded natural drainage systems, where feasible.
3. To the maximum extent feasible, development shall minimize adverse effects of waste water discharges and control runoff. Design and siting practices include, but are not limited to, the following:
- a. Retaining runoff on private property to prevent the transport of bacteria, pesticides, fertilizers, pet waste, oil, engine coolant, gasoline, hydrocarbons, brake dust, tire residue, and other pollutants into recreational waters.

- b. Diverting runoff through planted areas or sumps that recharge the groundwater dry wells and use the natural filtration properties of the earth to prevent the transport of harmful materials directly into receiving waters.
- c. Requiring beachfront and waterfront development to incorporate BMPs designed to prevent or minimize polluted runoff to beach and coastal waters.